

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 171 without my signature.

This bill, which imposes a one-size fits all mandate on hospitals to establish a “zero lift” patient handling policy, is similar to measures I have vetoed the last three years. While I continue to support the goal of reducing workplace injuries, I remain convinced that this inflexible mandate is a poor alternative to giving hospitals the flexibility needed to achieve this goal in the manner that most efficiently addresses each hospital’s needs and resources.

For this reason, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger